



One Hundred First Legislature - First Session - 2009
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 631

Chairperson: Steve Lathrop
Committee: Business and Labor
Date of Hearing: February 9, 2009

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

This legislation is introduced at the request of the Nebraska Department of Labor.

LB 631 amends the provisions of the Employment Security Law in the following respects:

1. Clarifies certain confidentiality requirements of the Employment Security Law.
2. Abolishes the Worker Training Board, transfers the Board's powers to the Commissioner of Labor and authorizes additional uses of the Nebraska Training and Support Trust Fund.
3. Provides that employers with annual payrolls of \$100,000 or more will be required to file wage and contribution reports electronically and pay combined tax owed or payments in lieu of contributions electronically.
4. Codifies current practices for charging employers for benefits drawn by part-time employees and benefits based upon combined wage claims.
5. Changes the tax rate recalculation process following the acquisition of an existing business to match the fiscal year calculation process enacted in Laws 2005, LB 739.
6. Prohibits the assignment of an employer with a positive experience account balance to the highest tax rate category.
7. Allows the Commissioner of Labor to intercept federal income tax refunds for unpaid unemployment taxes not paid as the result of fraud and unemployment benefits obtained through fraud.
8. Abolishes the Commissioner of Labor's State Advisory Council because its rate-setting functions no longer exist.

Principal Introducer:

Steve Lathrop, Chairperson
Committee on Business and Labor